AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1, 12, 14, 20, 21, 24, 26 and 34 have been amended herein.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Currently amended) A system that <u>facilitates electronic shopping through</u> ~~creates and maintains~~ an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database holding information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

an item list database that stores <u>at least one item list that includes a reference</u> ~~references~~ to <u>at least one</u> item ~~the items~~ <u>associated with the information</u> stored in the at least one database; and

an interface component that receives a request <u>to display the item that is referenced in the at least one item list</u> ~~for items in an item list~~, accesses the item list database <u>to obtain</u> ~~for~~ the reference ~~references~~ <u>from the at least one item list</u> ~~to the items~~, <u>utilizes the reference as a key into the at least one database, searches the at least one databases for the referenced item, extracts</u> data corresponding to the <u>referenced item, and utilizes the extracted data to display the item and associated information to the requester.</u> ~~at least one database based on the references and returns the requested item list.~~

2.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the interface component joins items from the at least one database and degrades the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database.

3.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a custom input component that allows a user to add a custom element to the item list, the custom element not residing in any of the at least one database.

4.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 3, further comprising a user interface component that receives data related to the custom element from a user, the data comprises at least one of structured and unstructured data.

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5.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a remote input component that allows a user to add an item to the item list, the item is a description that resides on a remote merchant's site, and the remote merchant site employs a link to the remote input component that invokes the remote input component.

6.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 5, the remote input component adds the description of the item to the item list, the description includes one of structured and unstructured data.

7.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 5, the description is linked to information associated with an item in the at least one database and the remote input component adds the linked information to the item list.

8.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a component that links an infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site wherein the item list system appears to reside on the remote site.

9.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the interface component comprises a plurality of ASP pages.

10.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one HTML page that allows a user to select items from an electronic web-site to add to the item list and at least one element that provides a link from a selected item to the interface component, the interface component adds the selected item to the item list.

11.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a gift finder component that is associated with the item list, the gift finder component accesses a user attribute database to retrieve attributes related to an owner of at least one item list, the gift finder component employs the retrieved attributes to extract data from the at least one database and returns at least one item based on the retrieved attributes.

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12.   (Currently amended) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database that stores information with respect to items; and

an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list, the interface component joins items from the at least one database and degrades the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database by providing other items from a same merchant that are similar to the removed items.

13.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, the items include data from at least two of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type, the interface component degrades the joined items by providing the best information from data available in the at least two of a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type.

14.   (Currently amended) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

an item list database and at least one database with item information stored in records; and

an interface component that receives a request to add an item, which is not in the at least one database, to an item list stored in the item list database, for items in an item, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list, the item the item is associated with information that comprises structured data that conforms to a format of the records in the at least one database and unstructured data that does not conform to the format of the records in the at least one database or reside in the records in the at least one database.

15.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising a custom input component that allows a user to add a custom element to the item list, the custom element component comprises structured and unstructured data.

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16.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, further comprising a user interface component that receives data related to a custom element from a user, the data comprises at least one of structured and unstructured data.

17.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising a remote input component that allows a user to add an item to the item list having a description residing on a remote merchant's site, the remote merchant site employs a link to the remote input component to invoke the remote input component.

18.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, the remote input component adds the description of the item to the item list, the description includes one of structured and unstructured data.

19.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, the description is linked to information associated with an item in the at least one database and the remote input component adds the information with respect to the item to the item list.

20.   (Currently amended) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing at different merchant sites on the Internet comprising:
        a database that stores item lists;
        at least one database that holds information with respect to items in a stored item list; and
        a component that adds an item to the item list, the item resides at a remote merchant site and is associated with information that neither conforms to the format of the records in the at least one database nor resides in the records in the at least one database; and
        an interface component located at the remote site that receives a request for items in the item list items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list, the system links the infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site and the presents the items item list system to appear that they reside at appears to reside on the remote site by removing items that are not located at the remote site.

21.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 20, the interface component filters the items in order to return accesses and returns only items related to the remote site.

22.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, the interface component accesses and returns only items related to the remote site based on an ID associated with the items.

23.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 21, the interface component accesses and returns only items related to the remote site by accessing and returning items on a separate list associated with items related to the remote site.

24.   (Currently amended) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

at least one database with saved information with respect to items in an item list that is stored in an item list database,

a user attribute database that stores user attributes and user preferences for an owner of the item list; and

an interface component that receives a request for items in an item list, accesses the items from the at least one database and returns the requested item list;

a customization component that adds at least one custom item to the item list, the at least one custom item does not reside in any of the at least one database; and

a gift finder component that accesses the a user attribute database and retrieves attributes related to associated with the an owner of the item list, utilizes the attributes to query the at least one database, the gift finder component employs the retrieved attributes to selectively extracts extract information associated with at least one item data from the at least one database based on the attributes, and displays returns the at least one item of interest to a purchaser. based on the retrieved attributes.

25.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 24, the item list comprises a link associated with the gift finder component that invokes the gift finder component from the item list.

26.   (Currently amended) A method that provides an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

    providing at least one database that stores information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

    providing an item list database that stores references to the items stored in the at least one database;

    receiving a request from a requestor for <u>at least one item associated with the information in the at least one database</u> items in an item list;

    accessing the item list database for the references to the <u>at least one item</u> items;

    extracting data <u>from the at least one database</u> that corresponds to the at least one database employing the references; and

    <u>utilizing the extracted data to display</u> returning the requested item list to the requestor.

27.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising joining the extracted data and degrading the joined items as records are removed from any of the at least one database.

28.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising joining structured and unstructured data.

29.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising inputting custom items into the item list database.

30.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising providing a link and a product description at a remote merchant site that allows a user to add items from a remote site to the item list database.

31.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising linking the infrastructure of the item list to a remote site, the item list appears to reside on the remote site.

32.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising providing links from selectable items on at least one HTML page, the links allow a user to select items from an electronic web-site to add to the item list.

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33.   (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that perform the steps of claim 26.

34.   (Currently amended) A method that provides an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising the steps of:

     providing at least one database that holds information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

     providing a user attribute database that stores attributes with respect to an owner of the item list;

     receiving a request from a requestor for possible gift items;

     accessing the user attribute database for the attributes and preferences of the owner of the item list, the preferences include additional items of interest of the user that are not in the user's item list;

     extracting data that corresponds to the at least one database based on the attributes and preferences;

     degrading the extracted data as records are removed from any of the at least one database by providing other items from a same merchant that are similar to the removed items; and

     displaying returning the requested possible gift items to the requestor.

35.   (Previously presented) A system that creates and maintains an electronic item list for items residing on the Internet comprising:

     means for storing information with respect to items, the information is at least one of an offer type, a general product type, a specific manufacturer type and a specific merchant type;

     means for storing references to the items stored in the at least one database;

     means for extracting data corresponding to the at least one database employing the stored references.

36.   (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for joining the extracted data and means for degrading the extracted data as records are removed from any of the at least one database.

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37.   (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for providing custom input elements to the item list.

38.   (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for allowing a user to add an item residing on a remote merchant's site to the item list.

39.   (Original) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for linking the infrastructure of the item list system to a remote site wherein the item list system appears to reside on the remote site.

40.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 35, further comprising means for providing gift suggestions to a receiver of an item list, the receiver employs attributes that reside in a user attribute database and means for extracting data from the at least one database based on the attributes.

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